Atty Dkt No. UDL 0157 PUSA

S/N: 09/890,771 Reply to Office Action of February 17, 2004

## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A <u>fall arrest</u> bottom anchor assembly for <u>use with</u> a substantially vertically-oriented elongate safety line, said <u>bottom</u> anchor assembly comprising a safety line gripper, a safety line tensioner, a bracket that is adapted to be fixedly mounted, wherein the gripper includes a manually adjustable clamp that can be clamped to the safety line at an adjustable position along its length, the tensioner including a hollow shaft connected to the gripper, and through which the safety line passes and extends the hollow shaft being adapted to receive the safety line with the safety line extending upwardly therefrom, said hollow shaft having an externally screw-threaded portion including a load setter threadingly adjustable thereon and adapted to bear against the underside of said fixed bracket for adjusting the safety line tension to a predetermined value.
- 2. (Previously Presented) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the manually adjustable clamp includes a pair of clamp blocks adapted to be placed in face-to-face opposing relationship around the safety line immediately beneath the hollow shaft.
- 3. (Original) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 2 wherein the clamp blocks are provided with mutually-aligned grooves or recesses substantially conforming to the profile of the safety line.
- 4. (Previously Presented) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 3 wherein the clamp blocks are loosely clamped to each other using screw-threaded fasteners for initial assembly and include a further screw-threaded fastener for applying final clamping torque.

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5. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the manually adjustable clamp [consists of] <u>includes</u> a collet grip through which the safety line passes.

- 6. (Withdrawn) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 5 wherein the collet grip is held between an end of the hollow shaft and a screw threaded fastener engaging the external screw thread on the hollow shaft.
- 7. (Withdrawn) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 6 wherein the collet grip can be opened or closed onto the safety line by rotating the screw threaded fastener relative to the hollow shaft.
- 8. (Withdrawn) A bottom anchor assembly according to claim 5 or 6 wherein the collet grip is biased closed onto the safety line by a resilient element.
- 9. (Withdrawn) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 8 wherein a sliding release member is provided in contact with the collet grip so that the collet grip can be opened against the bias of the resilient element.
- 10. (Previously Presented) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 5 wherein the bracket includes open jaw members adapted to receive the hollow shaft.
- 11. (Previously Presented) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 10 wherein the open jaw members have ends provided with down-turned portions which serve to prevent accidental removal of the load setter threaded on the hollow shaft from between the jaw members when the system is adjusted to its predetermined tension.
- 12. (Previously Presented) A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 5 further comprising an indicator for providing a visible indication of when said predetermined tension has been achieved.